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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

<u>Listing of Claims:</u>

- 1. (Currently Amended) An isolated or recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid segment or its complement, wherein said nucleic acid segment is at least 100 to 3330 nucleotides in length and has at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:1.
- 2. (Previously Presented) An isolated or recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence or its complement, wherein said nucleotide sequence comprises at least 750 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The isolated or recombinant polynucleotide of claim 2 comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or its complement.
- 4. (Previously Presented) An isolated or recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence or its complement, wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide comprising at least 190 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The isolated or recombinant polynucleotide of claim 4, comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
 - 6-9. (Canceled)
 - 10. (Previously Presented) A vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim 5.
- 11. (Previously Presented) The vector of claim 10, further comprising a promoter that is operably linked to the polynucleotide.

12-20. (Canceled)

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- 21. (Previously Presented) A vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim 4.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The vector of claim 21, further comprising a promoter that is operably linked to the polynucleotide.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The isolated or recombinant polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid segment is at least 500 nucleotides in length.
- 24. (Previously Presented) The isolated or recombinant polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid segment is at least 1000 nucleotides in length.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The isolated or recombinant polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid segment is at least 2000 nucleotides in length.
 - 26. (Canceled)
- 27. (Previously Presented) The isolated or recombinant polynucleotide of claim 2, wherein said nucleotide sequence comprises at least 1000 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The isolated or recombinant polynucleotide of claim 2, wherein said nucleotide sequence comprises at least 2000 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 29. (Currently Amended) A polynucleotide primer or probe comprising a nucleotide sequence, wherein said nucleotide sequence has between 12 and 100 contiguous nucleotides identical or exactly complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.
- 30. (Currently Amended) The polynucleotide primer or probe of claim 29, wherein said nucleotide sequence has between 12 and 50 contiguous nucleotides identical or exactly complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.

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31. (Currently Amended) The polynucelectide polynucleotide primer or probe of claim 29, wherein said nucleotide sequence has between 15 and 25 contiguous nucleotides identical or exactly complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.